



PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

April 25, 2014

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PAUL'S NOTE

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- * Mark your calendars: Our next community Shred-It event will be **April 26th** (Note new date) See page 2
- * Arizona Symphonic Winds starts their series of concerts in Udall Park on May 17. See page 4

I want to start with a note about Wednesday's budget discussion. I am disappointed that the Parks and Recreation Department is taking the hit for our budget problems

I know that we have to cut somewhere. All city departments will have to learn to do with less. My problem is this: our Parks and Recreation budget is being cut on a scale unmatched by any other department, and this has been going on for some time now.

Over the last five years, we've cut the Parks and Recreation budget by 28%. Over 250 positions have been eliminated for a loss of over one third of the department's personnel. What is being proposed in the City Manager's budget is an additional \$713,160. This would mean a loss of an additional 23.5 full-time equivalent employees. The only two other departments taking a hit are the much smaller Finance department and City Public Defender.

I've been assured that Parks and Recreation is not being "singled out" here,

but, word choice aside, it is clear that this budget is being balanced on cuts to our parks. I've heard it argued that what we are doing in this case is cutting the fat by getting rid of a few bureaucrats. I don't know how much fat is left after we pass this budget and we cut personnel in that department by over a third since 2008.

We have a great staff managing our parks on the East side. They have responsibilities ranging from the programming at the Udall Center to keeping the grass cut at Lincoln Park to making sure the disk golf course at Groves Park in good repair. What happens if we don't have people doing those jobs?

At Wednesday night's council meeting, I made a motion that restored half a million dollars to Parks by taking money from General Services (a department that is slated for a 30% increase, by the way). It's still not a sure thing, but I'm hoping we can begin to reverse the neglect before it's too late.

Former Pima County Supervisor Paul Marsh stopped by my office this week to get my support for a new veteran's cemetery in Marana.

The 32 acre site is being funded with a \$7.6 million dollar grant from the US Department of Veterans Affairs, and a big part of the land is being donated by the Kai family. It is scheduled for completion late next year.

As always, thank you for the calls and support. Remember to come by the office to pick up a post card to send to TESLA Motors.

Have a great weekend.



Si Schorr, Stan Abrams and Jim and Shirley Kaiser came to my office this week, and I didn't let him leave before he signed a post card for TESLA Motors.

SHRED-IT (NOTE NEW DATE—APRIL 26)



Your Ward 2 office and Shred-It is hosting another Shred-It event on April 26. Bring any of your material to be shredded, old bills, financial records, personal paperwork, to our parking lot from 8 am—11:30 and Shred-It will have its shredding trucks there to safely and securely destroy them for you.

The first reasonably sized box is free, but we ask that if you have any additional boxes, you bring a donation (either \$5 or an equivalent amount of non-perishable food) for the Community Food Bank.

Note: This event was previously scheduled for April 19, but had to be moved. We regret any inconvenience.

HOUGHTON ROAD UPDATE

Houghton Road: Broadway Intersection improvements: Work started November 1, 2013, and should wrap up in June 2015. Water line work is completed. We are working on the sewer line along Broadway at the Safeway Plaza. There will be various driveway closures as this work is completed. There will be driveways open at all times. We are continuing the installation of storm drains and catch basins on the east side of Houghton. We are completing the grading of the engineered fill and sidewalk on the north west corner of Houghton and Broadway. We will be paving this area next Wednesday and Thursday. We will be shifting traffic back into this area when this work is complete.

Houghton Road: Broadway Intersection Park & Ride: This work will be starting in June. The contractor is getting geared up for moving their construction trailer to the 22nd St. area for the next phase of the project, and to free up the Park and Ride area.

Houghton Road: Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street: Utility relocations in progress, construction to start in June. This project should take 18 months to complete. You will notice that Team Fischel is out relocating for Southwest Gas. TEP and TriCon are out relocating for TEP. Kleven is out relocating for CenturyLink. All their barricading has been coordinated with our contractor, Borderland Construction, to keep traffic moving smoothly and with the least amount of confusion possible.

If you have any amenities located in the right of way that you are concerned about, please contact MJ Dillard at 520-837-6616 or at mj.dillard@tucsonaz.gov about these so we can make arrangements to handle these. We are contacting the property management companies that manage common areas for homeowners associations for this as well.

Houghton Road: Irvington to Valencia: This project will be completed by the end of May, and is looking like it will be under budget and on schedule. The rubberized asphalt will start going in on Monday the 28th. This work will take about ten days, then we will bring in the temporary striping. The asphalt as to set up for 30 days before the final thermoplastic reflective striping and markers can be placed, and the temporary striping will allow us to keep the lanes open for that 30 day waiting period.

During the asphalt placement, we will need to close lanes down, but that will be moving and shifting throughout the ten days. Also, after the rubberized asphalt is down, there will be several areas where manholes will be raised, and this will require some barricading to allow the concrete collars to set up over night. We appreciate your patience for our final round of lane closures.

Landscaping continues to be installed throughout the project area. Various lanes of traffic will be temporarily closed to provide a safe zone for this installation. Within the next week or two, we will be placing the rock mulch throughout the project area and we will need to close various lanes for this work as well. Our goal is to keep as many of the lanes open as possible at all times.

As always, please keep the speeds down. Workers are still on the site and we don't want to see anyone hurt.

We appreciate your patience, and we want to hear from you if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

The Tucson/Pima County Household Hazardous Waste Program has changed the 2nd Saturday Outreach Collection to a "mobile" event. Every month, the collection event will be in a different neighborhood so that more Tucsonans will have easy access to the program. The 1st Saturday collection at the Eastside Service Center, 7575 E Speedway, will still continue. The collections run from 8 am to noon. For more information, visit www.tucsonaz.gov/hhw or call 888-6947

IMPORTANT: Do not drop off household hazardous waste at the Ward 2 Council Office. We have no way of storing it. Please wait until a scheduled monthly drop off.

1st Saturday: Eastside Service Center, 7575 E Speedway. Enter site by turning north on Prudence.

2nd Saturday: May: Mansfield Park, 2000 N 4th Avenue

UDALL CENTER INFORMATION

Agua Caliente Park Picnic: Seniors will have an opportunity to attend a picnic at Agua Caliente park on Tuesday, April 29, 2014. Departure from the center is at 10:00 a.m. and return is 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$4.00 per person. Lunch will be provided.

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta: A field trip to the Donna Liggins Center for a Cinco de Mayo Fiesta will be offered to seniors on May 7th from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. The event will include food and entertainment.

Memorial Day: The Carol West Senior Addition will host a Memorial Day Breakfast on Wednesday, May 28th at 9:00 a.m.. The event will cost \$4.00. Enjoy 15 minutes of stretching before a delicious breakfast and a live music performance.

For additional information on any of the programs listed above contact 791-4142.



PARKS PROGRAMS

Leisure Classes: The Summer 2014 Program Guide and Class Catalog has been published and is available for free pick-up at all Parks and Recreation facilities, including district offices, centers, and pools. The catalog is also available for viewing on line at www.ezeereg.com

The catalog has complete information on leisure classes, swim lessons, summer KIDCO, aquatics, sports programs, sports camps, registration, recreation center programs, and so much more.

To register, use the EZEereg Registration system, either online at www.ezeereg.com or by phone at 573-3933.

Registration for City Residents begins Saturday, April 26 at 6:00 a.m. and for the following programs; InBetweeners, Sports Camps, Junior Staff in Training and KIDCO

Registration for Non-City Residents begins Wednesday, April 30 at 6:00 a.m. for all offerings

Please see the program guide for registration information and deadlines. Registration Services may be contacted at 791-4877 for assistance or any questions.

Arizona Symphonic Winds: The Music in the Park concert series will take place in the Laszlo Veres Amphitheater in Udall Park (7200 E Tanque Verde Rd.) on May 17, 24, 31 and June 7. Concerts begin at 7:00 p.m.

Tucson POPS: The Tucson POPS concerts will take place at the DeMeester Outdoor Performance Center in Reid Park on May 11, 18, 25 and June 1, 8 and 15. The concerts begin at 7:00 p.m. Attached is the map of Reid Park.

Farmers Market: The Tucson Farmers Market continues at Jesse Owens Park on Fridays from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. The park is located at 400 S. Sarnoff Road, between Broadway and 22nd Street. The market has a variety of fresh produce and organic foods. Come out to the park and shop around for healthy and tasty foods.

Swim schedule: Pools open for summer May 29 through July 30. Visit www.tucsonaz.gov/parksandrec/aquatics for pool hours or call 791-4245.

Memorial Day: All City of Tucson Parks and Recreation facilities will be closed on May 28 in observance of Memorial Day.

University of Arizona Baseball: U/A versus Arizona State: Friday, April 25 at 7 pm, Saturday, April 26 at 7:30 pm, Sunday, April 27 at 4:30 pm

U/A versus Stanford: Friday, May 9 at 6 pm, Saturday, May 10 at 6:00 pm, Sunday, May 11 at 12:00 pm

Visit www.arizonawildcats.com for any additional information. To purchase tickets, call 621-CATS or visit the website.

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Remember to like
Paul on Facebook!

Please bring these items to the Ward 2 Office
for the following charities:

**THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK—Non Perishable
Items**

**DIAPER BANK OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA—
Infant/Child/Adult Diapers**

**TIHAN - Personal Care Items for Individuals
and Families in Need**

LIONS CLUB—Eye Glasses

**DANCING IN THE STREETS ARIZONA—Ballet/
Dance Equipment**

CASA MARIA—Plastic bags

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on Tuesday, May 6. Regular Session starts at 5:30 pm following an afternoon study session. There is always a short call to the audience before the business portion of the meeting. Council chambers are located downtown at 255 W Alameda.

The agendas for the meetings are posted online at <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/mcdocs>

